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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: DAVID E. SILVERMAN et al. Art Unit:

Not yet assigned

BITTED E. BIET ERWINET

Laura Lee Mosier

Not yet assigned Examiner:

Not yet assigned

Application No.

Herewith

1

For: Method for Treating Fecal Incontinence

Date:

July 15, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir

This Preliminary Amendment should be considered before examination of the referenced application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first paragraph on Page 1, line 1, with the following paragraph:

—This application is a continuation application of U.S. utility patent application Serial No. 09/882,522 filed June 15, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,595,910, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/286,245 filed April 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,251,063, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/232,056 filed January 15, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,238,335, and claims priority to the benefit of U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/111,884 filed December 11, 1998, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by this reference.